

Echo Lake Water District Quarterly Meeting Minutes

Date: 4/22/08

Time: 7:00pm

Place: Pascoag Utility Community room

253 Main St

Pascoag, RI

In attendance: Board members, Glenn Coutu, Paul Brais, Dave Theberge, Brian Bicki, & Flo Theirien.

William Bernstein ESQ.

Meeting officially opened at 7:00pm.

Just a note: There were 4 people from the district in attendance.

A.

Treasurers report is given by Flo Theirien she reports that there is a balance of \$4,509.55.

With numerous bill's that are currently late. With late fees still owed to the district. Late notices were sent out to those in the rears.

She also reported that all payables are up to date.

Flo states that there is 2 foreclosed houses in the district, and that the banks have not submitted any payments for water service. They are in the rears for 3 qtrs.

Mr. Bernstein the districts attorney has taken the street address and

past names of owners and will investigate and send a letter to proper financial institutions. In the letter will state what is owed to the district and service will be disrupted if payment is not made.

MOTION WAS MADE TO ACCEPT THE TREASURERS REPORT AS STATED.

THE MOTION WAS THEN SECONDED. THE MOTION WAS PASSED.

B.

CDBG money. Brian Bicki discusses the status of the CDBG grant money. He states that the district was approved for \$10K. But the district hasn't seen any of the money as of yet. He also goes on to say that the money can only be used for certain items, like chemicals, maintenance items, etc.equipment. Brian went on to say that he will look further into getting money allocated.

Brian has also said that he has submitted the application for 2008 CDBG, he has submitted an amount of \$10k. We won't know if we get any money until late July.

He didn't feel optimistic about getting the grant with the present financial state of RI.

C.

Shut Offs and Late Fees

Brian Bicki leads the discussion about this very critical issue. There

are some customers in the district that are constantly late paying their water bill. This puts a great deal of financial strain on the already cash strapped water district.

Flo the treasurer says, that there is quite a bit of work sending out late notices and shut off warnings. The expense in sending out these things gets quite costly and time consuming. She lets her feelings known that we don't get paid for our work, this is all volunteer work here on the water board.

The district's attorney who is Bill Bernstein comments on the issue of delinquent bill payments.

The water district has the right as a recognized utility to implement penalties to delinquent customers. The district cannot subsidize delinquent customers and should not be tolerated.

After much discussion by the board and the district members in attendance, a motion is made.

MOTION TO SET THE RECONNECTION FEE FOR WATER SERVICE AT \$100.00 FOR NON PAYMENT OF WATER BILL.

MOTION WAS SECONDED.

MOTION PASSED.

Another discussion took place about listing the delinquent charges and late payment fees and payment schedule when bills are posted.

The consensus is to have a list mailed to all the customers with next water bill stating; when payments are due, late fees, and reconnection fees after shutoff.

After much discussion a motion was made.

MOTION TO LIST A DETAIL LISTING OF PAYMENT SCHEDULE, LATE FEES AND RECONNECTION FEE AFTER WATER HAS BEEN TURNED OFF.

WILL BE MAILED ALONG WITH NEXT QUARTER BILL. THE BILL WILL BE DEEMED LATE AFTER 30 DAYS FROM WHEN BILL IS SENT OUT.

MOTION IS SECONDED.

MOTION HAS PASSED.

The final subject of the meeting has to do with maintenance of the pump house.

Discussion was held about the interior of the pump house, Ed Brennan says that the interior plywood needs painting and removal of mold.

A bid process will be needed to complete this work and then the

lowest price will take the job.

Also Dave Theberge states that if we cover the storage tank with insulation it will stop the condensation build up inside the building. Dave says he will look into securing the insulation material. He also says that it wouldn't take that long to do. May be some of the members could help get this done.

MOTION WAS MADE TO ADJOURN

MOTION WAS SECONDED AND PASSED

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:05pm